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NEWS AROUND THE CLOCK

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SHARSWOOD REDEVELOPMENT

FAIR VALUE?

The Philadelphia Housing Authority took their homes through eminent domain two years ago. Many are still waiting to be paid.



Arthur and Betsy Deleaver in front of their Sharswood house, which was one of 1,300 properties taken through eminent domain by the Philadelphia Housing Authority for a revitalization project. DAVID SWANSON / Staff Photographer

By Claudia Vargas
STAFF WRITER

When Arthur Deleaver's parents bought his childhood home in the city's Sharswood neighborhood in the late 1930s, the family went from just renting the first floor to owning the two-story, 900-square-foot rowhouse.

"I had a tricycle and rode around in the front room, in all the space," Deleaver, 84, said, his eyes widening to express how big the house seemed then to 5-year-old Arthur.

Those are the memories Deleaver was hoping to pass on to his children by giving them the house when he dies, just the way his mom did with him. "That way they could look back and say, 'My dad's house. He was born here.'"

The Philadelphia Housing Authority now owns those memories — or at least the home where they were made.

Deleaver's house was one of 1,300 properties taken through eminent domain by the Housing Authority in 2015 to make way for a massive redevelopment of the Sharswood neighborhood. See **SHARSWOOD** on A12.

BY THE NUMBERS

- \$22,000

The city's initial offer for the Deleavers' Sharswood home.
- \$34,000

City's 2015 assessment of the Deleavers' home for tax purposes.
- \$52,700

City's assessed value of the Deleavers' home in 2016.

I wasn't going to take peanuts for it because they are going to make money off it, so let me make some too.

Arthur Deleaver, Sharswood homeowner

AUDITOR GENERAL REPORT

Official: Put PPA under city control

Eugene DePasquale said its board had failed to rein in Fenerty, which led to less money going to schools.

By Claudia Vargas and Chris Brennan
STAFF WRITERS

Calling the board of directors of the Philadelphia Parking Authority "absentee landlords" and former Executive Director Vincent J. Fenerty Jr. a "tyrant," Pennsylvania Auditor General Eugene DePasquale said Thursday that the state should return control of the authority to the city.

DePasquale, in announcing the findings of two lengthy audits of the authority, said Fenerty should have been fired in 2015 after he admitted to sexually harassing a coworker. Instead, DePasquale said, Fenerty was allowed to continue to work with unchecked control of the agency.

"It is the executive director and board of directors who bear the responsibility to ensure that employees have a safe workplace and the authority is run efficiently and effectively for the people of Philadelphia," DePasquale said at a news conference in City Hall. "My audit showed that both the former executive director and board failed on both counts."

Fenerty could not be reached for comment.

The reports released Thursday had looked See **PPA** on A4.



Vincent J. Fenerty Jr.

Audit shows price of predators. Mike Newall, A4.

MEEK MILL CASE

Rapper drew FBI attention to city judge

By Jeremy Roebuck
STAFF WRITER

It was the most provocative allegation yet in the increasingly bitter public war between rapper Meek Mill and Philadelphia Common Pleas Court Judge Genece E. Brinkley — that the judge, whose decision to send Mill back to prison sparked nationwide protests, was herself under FBI investigation.

That assertion, tucked without detail inside a court filing Monday and fanned by Mill's lawyers and publicists, seemed designed to call into question Brinkley's integrity and embolden their claim that she could not be counted on to impartially rule on his fate.

But it told only part of the story, according to three sources familiar with federal authorities' involvement in the matter.

It was Mill himself who last year pressed the FBI to investigate the judge, who had repeatedly concluded that he had violated the terms of his probation, the sources say. And it was Mill who brought the short-lived review to a halt by See **MEEK MILL** on A4.



Meek Mill also ended probe.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Franken announces resignation

He remains defiant, pointing to allegations against Trump and others.

By Alan Fram
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Sen. Al Franken, a rising political star only weeks ago, reluctantly announced Thursday he's resigning from Congress, succumbing to a torrent of sexual harassment allegations and evaporating support from fellow Democrats. But he fired a defiant parting shot at President Trump and other Republicans he said have survived much worse accusations.

"I of all people am aware that there is some irony in the fact that I am leaving while a man who has bragged on tape about his history of sexual assault sits See **FRANKEN** on A14.



Sen. Al Franken (D., Minn.) leaves the Senate floor after delivering a largely unapologetic resignation speech. MELINA MARA / Washington Post

INSIDE

- Arizona Rep. Trent Franks to resign. **A10.**
- Comcast won't miss Franken, a vocal Senate critic. **A14.**
- Opinion: Too bad Franken caved. **Christine Flowers, A18.**

CHANGING SKYLINE | D1

Taming Philadelphia intersections

A bump for pedestrian safety.



CONVICTION | A6

20 years in killing of black S.C. motorist

Video captured scene.

COMING SUNDAY:

Top 25 Philadelphia restaurants and best new songs of 2017.